

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application and consideration and entry of this paper are respectfully requested in view of the herein remarks, which place the application in condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1 and 5-16 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 5-7, 9, 10, and 14-16 are rejected in the Office Action mailed on June 9, 2008. By this amendment, claim 1 is amended, claims 7 and 8 are canceled. Claims 29-40 are hereby added. Support of the amendments can be found throughout the Specification as originally filed. No new subject matter is introduced by way of these amendments.

Initially, the Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 8, 11, 12, and 13 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant has included the limitations of claim 8 and intervening claim 7 into independent claim 1. In addition, new claim 29 represents the incorporation of the limitations of claim 11 into claim 1. Claims 7, 8, and 11 are hereby canceled.

II. THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action mailed on June 9, 2008, claims 1, 5-7, 9, 10 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,104,744 to Wade ("Wade"). These objections have been made moot by the amendments presented in the listing of claims and discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the § 102 rejections in this application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and an early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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